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Pym puts off Saudi Arabia visit

LONDON, April 24 (R) — British Defence Secretary Francis Pym has put off a visit to Saudi Arabia this week following the Saudi Arabian call for the withdrawal of Britain's ambassador in Riyadh, British officials said today. Saudi Arabia took its action yesterday in retaliation for a British television film about the execution of a Saudi princess and her lover for adultery. Britain pressed regret and said it hoped that relations would be restored to their normal level as soon as possible. The officials said that dates for Mr. Pym's visit were being discussed for some time, but it was now felt that a visit would not be convenient. They declined to confirm reports that a possible state visit to Britain by King Khalid had now been deferred. Informed British sources said that no dates had been fixed and government spokesmen could say only that no announcement had been made. Mr. James Craig, the British ambassador in Jeddah, is due back here within a few days and the embassy will be under a charge d'affaires.

Berne to act on U.S. behalf in Iran

BERNE, April 24 (R)—Iran today gave Switzerland the go-ahead to represent United States interests in Tehran, the Swiss foreign ministry announced. A spokesman said the Swiss cabinet had accepted an American request to act on behalf of the U.S. in Iran provided that the Tehran government agreed. "That permission was given today," the spokesman said. The U.S. broke off diplomatic relations with Iran on April 7 amid continuing efforts to secure the release of 49 Americans held hostage in the U.S. Tehran embassy since November 4. The spokesman said he could not comment on the Iranian reply, merely stating that the Swiss ambassador in Tehran would now represent U.S. embassy and consular interests. Switzerland has 15 similar mandates to act on behalf of governments which have no diplomatic ties with another country. It already looks after U.S. interests in Cuba.

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Regional Briefs

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 24 (R)—The Arab population of Israel and the lands it occupies is expanding so quickly that Jews might almost be outnumbered in 20 years, statistics showed today. Projections made by Dr. Moshe Siron, director of Israel's Central Statistics Bureau, indicated that by the year 2000 the population of Israel within its pre-1967 boundaries should grow by 54 per cent to six million. But the projections showed the growth could be much faster in Arab territories now occupied by Israel, the West Bank of Jordan and the Gaza Strip. By 2000, the population of these areas should more than double to 5 million, the Arab population of Israel and the occupied territories would amount to 44 per cent instead of about 36 per cent today. He figures showed that within pre-1967 Israel, the Arab population would be 20 per cent of the total in 2000, instead of today's 5 per cent.

AMASCUS, April 24 (AP)—Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh is scheduled to visit Syria and Lebanon next weekend, official sources said today. The foreign minister will meet with President Hafez Al Assad and Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul alim Khaddam in Damascus Saturday. He is scheduled to travel to Lebanon by car Sunday morning for talks with Lebanese officials and Mr. Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Mr. Qotbzadeh is expected to meet with Lebanese Shiite Muslim leaders in an effort to defuse the hostilities between Shi'ites loyal to Ayatollah Khomeini and those supporting him in their current dispute with Iran.

AMASCUS, April 24 (R)—Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov is today for home after a four-day visit during which he stressed the identity of Syrian and Bulgarian views on the Middle East and signed several bilateral cooperation agreements. Speaking at a press conference before leaving, President Zhivkov said the fruitful talks he had with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad would further strengthen ties between the two countries. Adding that Syria and Bulgaria stood fast against imperialism and Zionism, he raised what he termed Syria's efforts to unite Arab progressive forces.

DEN, April 24 (R)—A senior South Yemeni official today predicted early progress in moves towards unity with North Yemen. Mr. Ali Asad Muhanna, a member of the central committee of the South Yemeni Socialist Party, said as he left for talks in North Yemen that "cooperation and coordination between the two halves of Yemen will soon develop in various fields." Mr. Muhanna was carrying confidential messages to North Yemeni leaders from South Yemen's new president, Mr. Ali Nasser Muhammad. Mr. Nasser Muhammad became president after Mr. Abdul Fattah Ismail, who sought unity with North Yemen, resigned on Sunday for health reasons.

ISBON, April 24, (R)—The Palestine Liberation Organisation (LO) has begun three-weekly broadcasts in English from Luanda through the Angolan state radio, the Angolan News Agency (ANGOP) reported today. ANGOP said the PLO permanent formation office in Luanda had started broadcasting on Tuesday and would go on the air every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday to inform international public opinion about the activities of the PLO. The African National Council (ANC) of South Africa, the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) and the Alkharo Front, fighting for the independence of the Western Sahara also broadcast from Luanda, ANGOP said.

EIRUT, April 24 (R)—A man was killed in a clash between armed men near the Iraqi embassy today as several Lebanese ties with predominantly Muslim Shiite populations suffered rikes. Informed sources said the clash developed as Shi'ites were demonstrating their denunciation of the reported killing in Iraq of anti-Iran religious leader Ayatollah Sayyed Mohammad akir Al Sadr. There was no immediate word on the identity of the victim or of those involved in the conflict. Among cities affected by a partial or total strike, in addition to predominantly Muslim West Beirut, were Baalbeck, Sidon, Tyre and Nabatieh, flag flags in mourning for the Shiite leader were hoisted outside his picture at some educational institutions.

EL AVIV, April 24 (AP)—Nine Americans serving with an observation station in the Sinai Desert were slightly bruised and shaken up yesterday when their helicopter plummeted to earth, an official with the Sinai field mission said today. "They were lifting off and did not get a lot of altitude," said Mr. Dick Slott, deputy director of the mission monitoring Israeli and Egyptian troops in Sinai. "It just came down." He said five of those aboard the Bell UH-1H aircraft were flown to an Israeli hospital in Eilat for X-rays and observation. But they suffered only bruises and no fractures.

ELGRADE, April 24 (R)—A trade unions conference on self-employment today rejected a demand by 12 Arab delegations to open Tunisia and Egypt from its meetings, conference officials said. The 12 delegations, which have been boycotting the conference since it opened on Tuesday, accused Tunisia of violation of trade unions rights and Egypt of siding with imperialism and Zionism by signing the Camp David agreements with Israel. Mr. Alka Spiljak, president of the Yugoslav Trade Unions Federation and chairman of the conference, spoke of the "just Arab cause" in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism. But he warned that the expulsion would severely harm the unity and solidarity of the international trade union movement. More than 140 trade unions from 95 countries are attending the four-day conference.

IAHRAIN, April 24 (R)—Riot police today fired teargas to disperse about 700 people marching in honour of a missing Shiite leader whom they claimed had been killed in Iraq. The rioters chanted slogans denouncing Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and carried placards describing the religious leader, Ayatollah Sayyed Mohammad Bakir Al Sadr, as a "martyr" of Iraq's Baathist government. Nearly half of Bahrain's 360,000 people are Shi'ites, as are most of the people of Iran. Today the Bahrain police patrolled some outlying Shiite villages on the island and reinforced guards at government buildings. Hundreds of shops closed after the teargas incident but there were no reports of arrests.

UWAIT, April 24 (R)—The Amir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin alman Al Khalifa, said in an interview published today Bahrain assurances from Iran that it had not officially renewed its claim to the island state. Asked by the Kuwait newspaper Al Rai al Aam about statements by some Iranian clergy renewing the Iranian claim, Sheikh Isa said: "Some while ago we received from Iraq assurances that our Muslim neighbour was anxious for security and stability to be established in the area and assurances that these statements both now and in the past reflect only the view of the people who made them." The deposed Shah of Iran claimed Bahrain until 1971 when a referendum on the Gulf island showed the people wanted independence.

China gives USSR one month to quit Afghanistan

PEKING, April 24 (R) — China today gave the Soviet Union exactly one month to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan or face Chinese boycott of the Moscow Olympic Games. A spokesman for the Chinese Olympic Committee said: "as long as the Soviet authorities refuse to respect the noble aims of the Olympic movement and refuse to withdraw all their troops from Afghanistan before May 24, the Chinese Olympic Committee will send no sportsmen to the 22nd Olympic Games in Moscow."

National Olympic committees have to accept their invitations by May 24. The spokesman said the Chinese committee had taken the decision at a full meeting today. But Chinese sportsmen will still take part in the pre-Olympic qualifying rounds to be held outside the Soviet Union, he added.

The decision, although announced as an Olympic Committee resolution, was clearly taken at a high level in the Chinese government.

Premier Hua Guofeng told Japanese journalists on Monday it would be improper for Chinese athletes to take part "under the circumstances of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan."

The boycott, now a virtual certainty, will come as a hard blow to Chinese sportsmen. The last time Peking took part was in 1952 in Helsinki.

China was only readmitted to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) last year in place of Taiwan, which had held the seat as the Republic of China.

Despite the boycott, the committee pledged further efforts to promote the Olympic movement and expressed satisfaction with its cooperation with the IOC since Peking resumed membership.

Anderson quits presidential race as Republican

WASHINGTON, April 24 (R) — Congressman John Anderson today announced he was withdrawing from the race for the Republican presidential nomination but would run instead in the November general election as an independent candidate.

The silver-haired liberal congressman from Illinois said he had taken the decision because it was clear he could not win the Republican nomination, which appears to be virtually locked up by former California Governor Ronald Reagan.

His move, expected to introduce a key new element into the presidential race, was announced in a statement issued at the outset of a press conference in the National Press Club in Washington. "I have chosen, after careful deliberation, to pursue an independent course toward the presidency of the United States," Mr. Anderson said.

Israel rejects European resolution on Palestinians

TEL AVIV, April 24 (AP) — Israel's foreign ministry issued a formal statement today expressing "great concern" over the resolution adopted yesterday by the Council of Europe.

The statement said the council decision "not only fails to contribute to peace in the Middle East, but represents a further step among other recent ones jeopardising the peace process now at the stage of implementation."

The European organisation, which previously had adopted a pro-Israeli stance, voted in favour of the right of the Palestinians to self-determination and urged European governments to work for a change in U.N. Security Council Resolution 242.

The foreign ministry rejected any attempt to alter U.N. resolutions 242 or 338, saying that the Israel-Egypt peace treaty was made possible on the basis of the resolutions.

"Any attempt to destroy the basis of the peace treaty can only be interpreted as an intention to damage the peace process as such," a ministry spokesman said.

Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre, addressing the parliamentary assembly of the 21-nation Council of Europe, proposed a new U.N. Security Council resolution recognising the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as well as acknowledging Israel's right to exist.

If U.S. tries to blockade exports

Iran threatens to close entire Gulf to oil traffic

TEHRAN, April 24 (R) — Iran today threatened to close the whole Gulf to oil traffic if the United States tried to blockade its oil exports to force the release of the Tehran hostages.

Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh was quoted by Tehran radio as saying: "If these gentlemen mine our (maritime) borders or stop the export of our oil, there's no reason that we should allow exports of oil from the Gulf."

And in an earlier briefing for foreign broadcasting networks, he said: "If economic sanctions or anything else keep Iranian oil from leaving the Gulf, no other nation would be able to ship any oil through the Gulf."

More than half the Western World's oil imports pass through the Gulf, principally from Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the Gulf states and Iran itself.

There have been reports that President Carter is considering mining Iranian ports as a way of stepping up pressure for the release of the American hostages held at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

However, a senior White House official has confirmed that senior members of the president's staff are worried by his warnings of possible military action against Iran.

The official said a report in the Los Angeles Times that some presidential aides were seriously concerned was correct. One of the aides was quoted as saying: "We're slipping down a slippery slope."

According to the Kuwait News Agency, the Iranian foreign minister is to visit some of the Gulf states affected by his warning. He quoted Iranian Ambassador Ali Shams Ardakani as saying Mr. Qotbzadeh would discuss the U.S. military presence in the region and

seek greater understanding of his country's policies.

Fresh support for President Carter came from Japan today, with a decision by the government to impose diplomatic and economic sanctions against Iran.

The Japanese cabinet did not set a May 17 deadline for decisive developments over the hostages, as Canada and the nine European Common Market nations have done. But it is expected to coordinate its actions closely with them, and officials said the Japanese measures would virtually halt Japanese exports to Iran by May or June.

However, Mr. Qotbzadeh said at today's Tehran briefing that the latest western sanctions would prolong the crisis between Iran and the United States rather than shorten it.

Meanwhile, fighting between Iranian government forces and Kurdish militants for control of the Kurdish capital of Sanandaj reached a new pitch of intensity.

Residents of Sanandaj said tanks, helicopter gunships and Phantom jets were firing into the streets today. Kurdish spiritual leader Sheikh Ezzedin Hosseini called on Iranians and the world to protest.

Kurdish sources also reported new fighting in the town of Saqqez, further north.

Iranian army spokesmen declined to comment on events in Kurdistan. But last night an army statement accused the Kurds of violating an agreement between their leaders and the Tehran government.

In Washington, administration officials have warned Iran that continued upheavals could destroy its Islamic revolution and lead to partition of the country.

They said the Soviet Union, Iraq and conceivably the United States were among the nations

With strikes, demonstrations, boycott W. Bank vows retaliation against Jewish vandalism

TEL AVIV, April 24 (Agencies) — Defying government orders, Palestinian activists in the occupied West Bank vowed today to retaliate against a window-smashing rampage by Jewish settlers with strikes, demonstrations and an economic boycott.

Israeli soldiers fired warning shots to disperse rioting Arab West Bank high school students protesting against attacks on Arab-owned cars in two occupied West Bank towns last night.

Eyewitnesses said the students threw stones at Israeli vehicles and tried to block the main road in Ramallah where wind-screens and

windows of scores of Arab cars were smashed. Arab residents said the vandals came from nearby Israeli settlements.

Police detained four settlers from a Jewish outpost north of occupied Jerusalem on suspicion of having driven through the West Bank towns of Ramallah and Al Birah during the night, shattering the windows of 24 cars, an Arab bus and two houses. The detainees refused to cooperate with police, but other settlers said the action was in revenge for the frequent stonings by Arab youngsters of Jewish cars passing through the towns.

The mayor of Ramallah, Mr. Karim Khalaf, said a meeting of West Bank leaders had decided "to announce public demonstrations... of the Palestinian masses... a strike for three days... and third, an economic boycott" which would keep Arab labourers out of Jewish factories and cut off the Israeli settlements in the occupied territory.

But the West Bank military governor, Brig. Binyamin Eliezer, called in the leaders and ordered them to reverse the decisions. He blamed the Arabs, as well as the Jews, for the rising cycle of violence gripping the West Bank.

"I remind you of the bullet shot at a settler near Nablus, I remind you of the tens of incidents of throwing stones at civilian cars, military cars and the cars of the settlers here," Brig. Ben-Eliezer told Israel Radio. "The escalation is not from the one side, it is from the two sides."

Mr. Khalaf called a meeting of all 24 West Bank mayors to decide on protest action against the attack, but only four mayors succeeded in attending after Brig. Ben-Eliezer banned the meeting.

"As they attacked our cities, we are planning to attack the settlements with stones," Mr. Khalaf told the Associated Press in a telephone interview. "We are ready to face their bullets."

The settlers' attack reflected the militance of the Jewish residents of the West Bank outposts. Settlers near Hebron, south of Jerusalem, took similar action six months ago, smashing the windshields of 30 cars, slashing their tires and their seat coverings.

A spokesman for the West Bank military governor said the army would treat both Jewish vandals and Arab stone throwers with severity, and he warned the mayors of the West Bank that any attempts to organise strikes or resistance by Palestinians would be met with curfews on West Bank cities.

Security Council condemns Israeli strike into Lebanon

UNITED NATIONS, April 24 (Agencies) — The U.N. Security Council today adopted a resolution condemning Israel's April 8 retaliatory strike into Lebanon against Palestinians. The vote was 12-0 with the United States, the Soviet Union and East Germany abstaining.

Besides "Israel's military intervention into Lebanon," the resolution also "strongly deplores" military aid to Maj. Saad Haddad's Lebanese rightist militiamen, who are supplied by Israel.

It also deplored "acts that have led to loss of life" among U.N. troops in Lebanon, and "all acts of hostility" against the U.N. force.

U.N. reports blame Maj. Haddad's militia for the fatal shooting last Friday of two Irish members of the U.N. force.

The resolution condemns "the deliberate shelling" of the U.N. force headquarters and its field hospital and calls attention to the force's right of self-defence.

In Dublin earlier today, Irish

officials said the 10 countries with troops in the United Nations Truce in Lebanon (UNIFIL) had agreed in principle to hold an urgent ministerial meeting to discuss the situation in southern Lebanon.

They said plans for the meeting had not been finalised, but it could be held at the end of next week in Dublin or New York.

Ireland proposed the meeting after gunmen murdered two Irish soldiers of UNIFIL last week. Ireland has mounted a diplomatic campaign to press Israel to stop supporting the right-wing militia, which controls a strip of territory along the border with Israel.

Ireland, Fiji, Ghana, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway and Senegal have infantry battalions in UNIFIL. Italy and France have logistics units in the 6,000-strong force.

In Beirut, Irish military chiefs today discussed how to boost the U.N. force in South Lebanon as the coffins of the two Irish soldiers were flown home.

The visit of a military team from Irish Army Headquarters, coincided with the diplomatic effort in Dublin.

The coffins of the two soldiers, draped with the Irish flag and U.N. insignia, were loaded onto a Middle East Airlines jet at Beirut airport today, escorted by a lone piper playing an Irish lament.

The hour-long special mass at Beirut airport was attended by UNIFIL Commander-in-Chief Lt. Gen. Emmanuel Erskine, along with ranking Irish officers and diplomats.

Gen. Victor Khouri, commander of the Lebanese armed forces, sent a bouquet of flowers which was placed over the flag-draped coffins of privates Thomas Barret and Derek Smallhorn.

Irish military sources in Beirut said the team of four senior army officers led by Col. Vincent Crawford arrived in Beirut yesterday with 300 Irish soldiers sent to replace part of Dublin's 700-man contribution to the U.N. force.

They said the team would stay in the south a week to discuss ways of giving more muscle to UNIFIL on the ground.

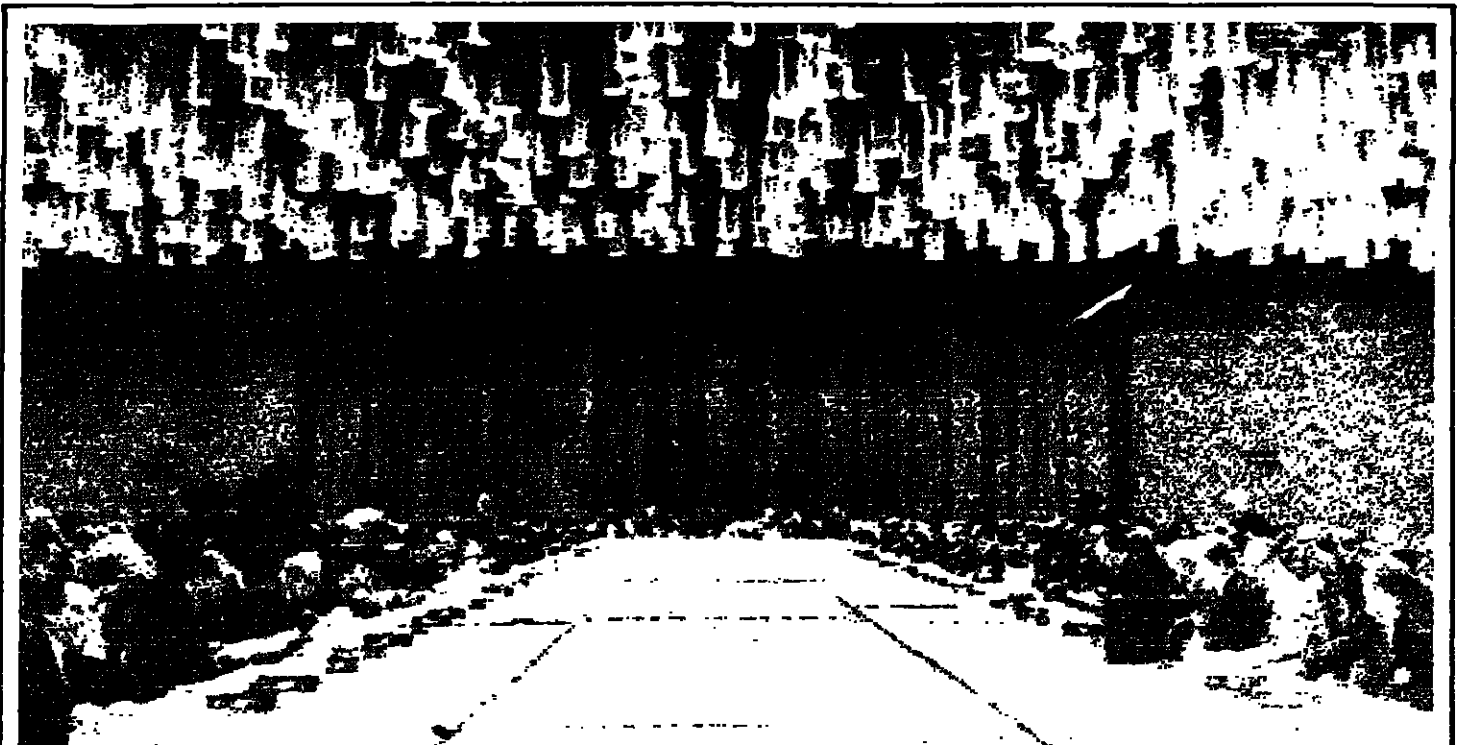
Forty-one UNIFIL soldiers have been killed since the force was established in the wake of an Israeli invasion of South Lebanon in March, 1978. Six of the 41 were Irish.

Col. Crawford today touted Irish positions in the southern region's central sector.

He told reporters at Tibnin, headquarters of the Irish contingent, that no Irish troop withdrawals were contemplated.

The rightist militia's "Voice of Hope" radio today warned Dutch forces against "adopting the line followed by Irish troops." It said the Dutch had taken part in the shelling of rightist positions during the latest clash between Irish and militia forces earlier this month.

The radio quoted Maj. Haddad as saying any resolution running against the militia's "higher interest" which might be adopted by the U.N. Security Council would be resisted by force.



A view of the opening session Thursday of the Interim and Development Committee of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the hall of Hamburg's Congress Centre. The major industrial nations were reported Thursday night to be still a long way off reaching final agreement on the long-debated substitution account, a plan which they hope to bring to their currency exchange markets.

There had been hopes that some form of agreement, if only in outline, might be presented at the IMF meetings in Hamburg. But, after a meeting of finance ministers of leading industrial countries, their spokesman, Belgian Finance Minister Gaston Geens, told a press conference no date had been fixed for the plan's establishment and that technical and political problems remained. See page 6.

METE
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Mr. Seiki Tozaki
President of C. Itoh & Co., Ltd.
and best wishes for a happy stay in Jordan

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Editorial and advertising offices:
JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION
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 Cables: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan.
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GUEST EDITORIAL

Shameful thought

THE Israelis have gone all out to dissociate themselves from last week's murder of the two Irish soldiers.

They have done so by simultaneously blaming the militias of Saad Haddad and helping him pass the blame on to others.

Thus, Israeli officials weep for Private Barrett and Private Smallhorn declare their "lack of control" on Saad Haddad and are scandalised by any suggestion that Tel Aviv had anything to do with this evil deed. "It is shameful to even imagine such a thing," Mr. Weizman gasped last week.

In the meantime, the Israelis are giving Saad Haddad's own denial of involvement maximum exposure by placing their media at his disposal and arranging meetings between him and foreign journalists who are willing to file exotic stories about the Shi'ite blood-for-blood tradition.

Few are likely to swallow Saad Haddad's story, but Israel's story is another matter. When Mr. Weizman says "it is shameful to imagine" Israeli involvement in the butchery, millions around the world are likely to hang their heads in shame and apologise. This is because millions around the world know Israel as the brave David who slew the Arab Goliath, not as the compulsive killer who has slain most of those who have gotten in his way.

Very few, for instance, know who Sweden's Count Folke Bernadotte was, let alone the fact that he was murdered by the Israelis—in much the same way as the two Irishmen were murdered last week—because, as a U.N. mediator, he made recommendations which did not please the new Jewish state. And even fewer know that the man who masterplanned that murder was later rewarded with a prominent seat in the Israeli Knesset.

But the members of the Security Council know all there is to know about both the nature of Israel and the Haddad militias' total dependence on it. They need no one to tell them that Tel Aviv's connection with the murders and the continuing harassment of UNIFIL, far from being "shameful to imagine," is impossible to deny.

What they do with that knowledge may help restore some of the Security Council's credibility in the Middle East. It may also help drive another Israeli nail in the coffin of the Security Council as the guardian of international security.

-- From Ike, Beirut

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: The Council of Europe issued on Wednesday a resolution admitting the failure of the Camp David accords and calling on European governments to consult at the United Nations to amend Security Council Resolution 242, or replace it, in such a way as to recognise the Palestinian right to self-determination. The resolution also condemned the Israeli settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories.

The resolution aims at urging European governments to submit their Middle East initiative, which has sat frozen in the U.S. icebox along with the amendment or replacement of the Security Council resolution. It is clear from this that the European parliament sees no need to wait until the autonomy negotiations are concluded, seeing that it has announced the failure of the Camp David accords.

On the other hand, the resolution did not come out with any thing new by denouncing the Israeli settlement policy. The entire world community has denounced this policy before, and the Israeli response has been only to insist on continuing it and to claim that the settlements are part of Israel.

The European resolution should have dealt otherwise with Israel's intransigence; namely, by imposing diplomatic and economic sanctions against Israel if it refuses to halt its settlement practices by a certain date, just as the EEC countries have done with regard to the Iranian-American hostage crisis.

Arabs should look for results, and be alert, now that the European initiative has been awaited for so long. **AL DUSTOUR:** What is required, as His Majesty King Hussein has said in London's *Arab Month* magazine, is the attainment of a just solution to the issues of Jerusalem and Palestine, for these issues are the real source of instability in the region. Attempts to reach such a solution have run up against the intransigent Israeli attitude and America's attempt to deal with the Palestinian issue alone. This attitude will not succeed because it is based on a futile foundation, namely the Camp David agreements.

The principal error of the tripartite negotiations is their overlooking the crux of the conflict, and also their neglect of the main parties to that conflict—foremost of which are the Palestinian people. This path, as King Hussein reiterated, is not a promising one. It is rejected by the Palestinian people, the Arab countries and most peace-loving countries.

Thus, instability will remain the key aspect of the Middle East situation until the Arabs, in cooperation with the world community, find a just solution to the problem of Palestine and Arab Jerusalem.

Iraq contributes \$2m to UNRWA

AMMAN, April 24 (JT) — Iraq's contribution of \$2 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) pledged yesterday is "very gratifying" to the agency, UNRWA Director in Jordan John Tanner said tonight. "But we still have a long way to go."

The contribution was made during a meeting in Baghdad between Iraq's Foreign Minister, Mr. Saadoun Hammadi, and UNRWA Commissioner General Olof Rydbeck of Sweden. The funds will be used to help towards maintaining the agency's present teaching programme, threatened by a large budget deficit.

The agency still needs \$13.5 million by June 30 if it is to continue most of its education programmes beginning in the summer and autumn of this year. UNRWA will be forced to terminate teaching services for the elementary and preparatory cycles in Jordan and Syria if the deficit is not met. UNRWA schools in Lebanon and the occupied Arab territories will not be affected.

Mr. Rydbeck was in Iraq to seek contributions for the financially plagued agency, which still has a deficit of \$54 million that must be met if the same services are to be



UNRWA Commissioner General Olof Rydbeck

offered this year as were offered last year. Each year at this time the agency faces a financial crisis. Mr. Tanner said, but every year the situation grows worse and the deficit grows larger.

"We hope that this is the first of many additional contributions," Mr. Tanner said of the Iraqi gesture. "The agency is very grateful" and especially appreciates that the contributions comes from an Arab state. "It always helps when one country comes to the rescue," he said, adding that it tends to inspire other countries to contribute.

The agency is continuing to contact countries to ask their help in meeting the deficit.

Iraq-Jordan trade talks open here

AMMAN, April 24 (JNA) — Iraqi and Jordanian officials opened talks here today aimed at further boosting economic and trade relations between the two countries. The two sides discussed transit problems and ways of facilitating travel between Iraq and Jordan, increasing the volume of trade and granting Iraq more facilities for importing its goods via Aqaba port.

The two sides, forming a joint Iraqi-Jordanian trade committee, also discussed increasing the quotas of the Iraqi and Jordanian commercial centres in Amman and Baghdad, holding trade fairs in both countries, regular visits of trade delegations and joint economic ventures. Heading the Jordanian side was the Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Dr. Hashem Dabbas; the Iraqi side was led by Dr. Mahdi Al-Ubeidi, the Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Trade and Economy.

Dr. Ubeidi and his delegation arrived in Amman last night for a five-day visit and talks with Jordanian officials. According to Dr. Dabbas Jordan has so far this year exported to Iraq goods worth JD 15 million. He expressed the hope that exports will reach JD 30 million by the end of the year.

The two sides will resume meetings here on Saturday.

A varied and impressive look at Jordanian artists' recent work

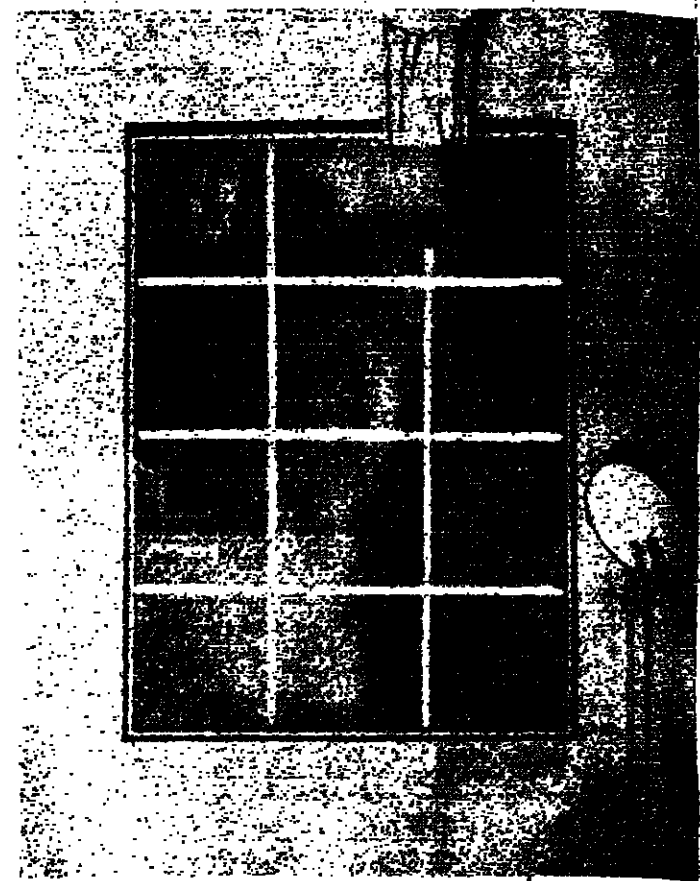
Text and photos by Sara O'Neill
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, April 24 — Anyone eager to get the nearest thing possible so far to an overall view of what Jordan's artists have been producing over the last few years should pay a visit to the Jordanian Artists' Association gallery in Jabal Luweibdeh.

There one can see a selection of works — mainly paintings, plus a few pieces of sculpture and ceramic works — by 45 local artists ranging from the well-known, such as Messrs. Mohanna Durra, Yasser Dwaik and Aziz Ammura, to young artists fresh out of college.

Despite a lack of the necessary space to exhibit all the works to their best advantage, the three-year-old association's modest gallery has a relaxed, unpretentious atmosphere which makes viewing a pleasurable experience.

This is the first attempt by the association, which operates on a shoestring budget — the grant provided by the Ministry of Culture just pays for the rent — to put on such an assorted selection of Jordanian art. Despite the fact that certain established artists are not shown at their best, and one or two not at all, the general result is commendable.



Montage by Qasem Al Amoudi

The result is particularly impressive considering the difficulty faced by the organisers in tracking down pieces which were sold years before. Of the 45 artists represented, all but a handful are association members, and all the pieces on display are on loan from private collections and government departments.

The oldest painting in the show, which was discovered under a layer of dust in one of Amman Municipality's darker corners — a view of the centre of Amman as seen by Mr. Dia' Suleiman more than 30 years ago — serves as a reminder that Jabal Jofah was once a smart place to live. Mr. Suleiman is regarded as one of the pioneers of Jordanian art; but his talent seems weak compared with another artist no longer in the area: Mr. Kamal Balatah.

Mr. Balatah is a Palestinian who has made a name for himself in his adopted country, the USA. His oil painting of a couple embracing reveals a fine sensitive talent, as does, to a lesser degree, a water-colour of a small boy playing with a model boat.

The samples of the work of some of Jordan's best known artists, who are still very active, vary considerably in quality. Mr. Mohanna Durra is represented only by portraits dating back a decade and Mr. Aziz Ammura by a rather melodramatic scene of a refugee family and two portraits of fellow artist Mr. Fu'ad Mimi (whose own landscapes curiously enough look more like the work of Mr. Ammura himself).

But the two large oils by Mr. Nasser Abdul Aziz are outstanding. His scene of two copper engravers, who have a strangely Mongolian look despite their obviously traditional Arab environment, is powerfully composed and beautifully executed in predominant shades of green and gold.

A golden glow even more strongly imbues his portrait of a young girl in traditional Palestinian dress, working on her embroidery surrounded by examples of the finest Arab craftwork. What might appear sentimental in the hands of an artist with merely ordinary talents has been raised to a higher level by Mr. Abdul Aziz's mastery of the medium.

Mr. Dwaik, who is currently president of the association, and Mr. Ahmad Na'wash are the two established artists whose exhibited work gives one a chance to appreciate an interesting progression in the way they express themselves.

Both have highly distinctive styles. Mr. Dwaik's work, underlined with symbolism, has developed

from depicting human struggles in a figurative style (as witnessed in his large oil of a group whose heads stand heroically pointing from the edge of a wild landscape towards a pale sun) to a recent semi-abstract composition also in oil, in which a white flag hangs upside down in the midst of ruins.

One of the rare local artists have tried his hand at printmaking (the expense and general unsuitability of materials is one of Jordanian artists' biggest trials). Mr. Dwaik reveals another dimension of his talent in a low relief etching of a cock, one of a series produced 7 years ago.

Mr. Na'wash, whose work (obviously influenced by Klee) characterised by child-like figures in generally subdued tones of browns and greens, has two unusually brightly coloured oil displays, one, an abstract, marking a new departure for him.

The majority of the works in the gallery, however, are by young artists, most of whose names may be unfamiliar to general public. Among those who have as yet stage exhibitions of their own, stand out as having some original talent, are Mr. Omar Hamdan, Mr. Qasem Al Amoudi, Mr. Mohammad Mustafa and Mr. Kuram Nimri.

Mr. Hamdan, who only recently returned from studying in Italy has a fine abstract full of movement; Mr. Mustafa's scene of a hockey game, executed in mixed media with considerable skill in conveying speed and violence; and Mr. Al Amoudi's intriguing montages on rather untypical themes for Jordanian artists — including an unfortunate to lose his head on the guillotine.

Although there are a number of pieces of sculpture dotted round the gallery the work of Mr. Nimri is by far the most mature, particularly his male torso carved of olive wood.

Finally, one should not omit the excellent ceramics by Mr. Mahmoud Taha, who has departed in one instance from pottery work to produce a puzzling metal sculpture, an apparent comment on the events of 1970 which a framework of ruin houses is built up on what appears to be the butt of a gun. At the end of the barrel, as if balancing the weight of the house, is perched a man fishing with a bullet twisted into the shape of a shark's tooth bait. The symbolism is ambiguous.

The exhibition is open all Fridays included, until April 30. The gallery is located in a small villa opposite the French Cultural Centre.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What Samer Tabba' is about

Dear Sir,

For many people in Amman the Jordan National Gallery in Jabal Luweibdeh is still *terra incognita*. This new gallery, of responsible design with excellent exhibition space, houses at the moment — beside its permanent collection — an interesting show of mainly stone sculptures. Your paper has already made special mention of it on the opening date, but art of this kind probably needs some more explanation or publicity.

We should recognise the main points of reference concerning this artist, Samer Tabba', the sculptor, is not a narrow parochialist, adding to the endless anthology of Middle Eastern clichés portraying "refugees" or "war and destruction". He is unmistakably international and universal.

That he is also more of a formalist than an illustrator will instantly strike the general viewer. Perhaps for many his work will prove to be too abstract to be entirely accessible on first confrontation.

His material is stone and his sculptural sensibility manifests itself overwhelmingly in this particular medium. Sculptors can be carvers who work at a piece of wood or stone, to transform it so that the ultimate shape fits the concept the sculptor has in mind. Samer Tabba' seems essentially a carver, an artist who thinks in terms of masses or volumes, a carefully treated surface, and balance.

The love of stone, the ideal material of the true carver, goes back in our age to Brancusi and Noguchi, followed by Moore and Barbara Hepworth. Yet in Tabba's work we can see and feel associations with earlier periods in history, and here we detect the inspiration his native ground has always been. There is a neolithic aura about his "Gathering of Monoliths". (This work belongs to the permanent collection of the gallery; some of his smaller works are for sale.)

The given beauty of a stone and the challenge this beauty offers to the sculptor is quite apparent in a work like "Abu Firas Tombstone". The stone has a late afternoon desert glow that speaks entirely for itself.

There is a peace of black basalt from Mafrak with a smoothly polished surface, that has a lovely thrusting sweep to it. It is pierced at the centre, a circle within a square, for perfect balance. Another dark, granite-like stone with a smooth angle in front changing into a rounded, rough backside simply asks to be touched. The tactile experience makes us feel the introverted nature of these works; introverted meaning here: closed, still, contemplative, as opposed to sculpture that comes across as cluttered, loud or aggressive.

A popular work in this show that fits in with the serenity of the ones mentioned above is the slate-coloured slab called "Hanging". It functions on at least two levels, displaying, say, the tranquil opacity of tidal pools, and, cleverly, the purely formal contrasts of light and dark, rectangle and rounded contour, shifting planes and well-defined circular piercings.

One could well visualise these particular pieces kept together. They represent a consistent unity of style. Concept, form and surface treatment coincide. They could form the basis of a future Tabba' retrospective.

The Jordan National Gallery deserves praise for showing the Amman public this serious artist of admirable stylistic integrity combined with an unerring sense of what he wants to convey. The exhibition has been extended for another week and will be on view until May 8.

Carla Braam

P.O.B. 1470
 Amman
 April 23

WHAT'S GOING ON

Sculpture Exhibition

The Jordan National Gallery presents an exhibition of sculpture by Samer Tabba'. The gallery is open daily except on Tuesdays.

Stamps Exhibition

The French Cultural Centre, in cooperation with the Ministry of Telecommunications, presents an exhibition of Jordanian and French stamps. This exhibition is on display daily until April 27.

Art Exhibition

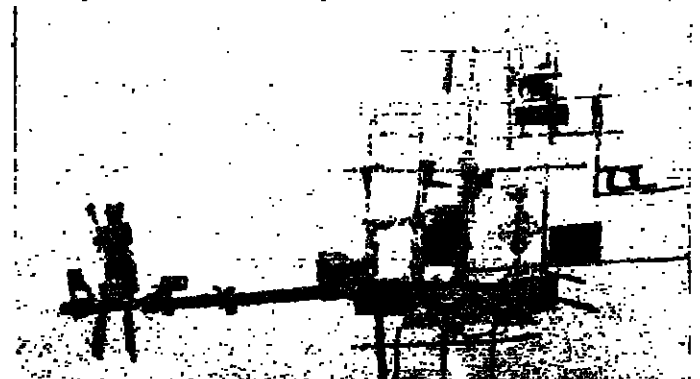
The Jordanian Artists' Association presents an exhibition of paintings, sculpture and ceramics by 45 Jordanian artists, most of whom are association members. The works are displayed at the association's centre in Jabal Luweibdeh (in a side street opposite the French Cultural Centre). The exhibition is open every day, including Friday, until April 30. Opening hours: 10:00 to 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



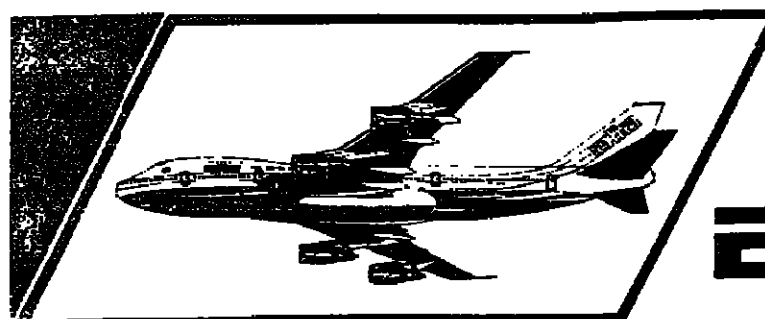
Oil painting by Nasser Abdul Aziz 1972 showing two craftsmen engraving in copper



Oil painting by Yasser Dwaik 1979



Metal sculpture by Mahmoud Taha



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Jordan Weekly Calendar

(Week of April 25 - May 1)

EXHIBITIONS

CONTINUING: An exhibition of stone sculptures by Samer is on display for another week at the Jordan National Gallery in Jabal Lweibdeh. The gallery is open daily except on days.

The exhibition of Jordanian and French stamps on display at French Cultural Centre continues until April 27.

The Jordanian Artists' Association presents an exhibition of sculpture and ceramics by 45 Jordanian artists. The works are displayed at the association's centre, located in Jabal Lweibdeh in a side street across from the French Cultural Centre. The exhibition is open every day, including Friday, until 1:30.

WEDNESDAY, April 28: The Goethe Institute presents an exhibition of children's picture books from West Germany. This touring exhibition, organised by the Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations in Stuttgart in cooperation with the Klingenstein Museum in Hamburg, presents a small selection of outstanding new German-language picture books to give an idea of the standard of children's literature in Germany. The exhibition opens at 5 p.m. and continues daily until May 6.

CONCERT

WEDNESDAY, April 28: The Spanish Embassy and the Department of Culture and Arts present a piano recital by Spanish pianist Manuel Ferrer at the Hayat Arts Centre at 8 p.m.

FILMS

WEDNESDAY, April 25: The Department of Culture and Arts, in cooperation with the Embassy of East Germany, presents a film of German films for one week, starting daily at 8 p.m. These are being shown at Versailles Cinema.

THURSDAY, April 29: The Goethe Institute presents a film by R. Geissendorfer entitled "Sternsteinhof" (1976) starring a Rupe, Tilo Pruckner and Peter Kern. The film is based on a real account of the life of German peasants in 1893, but the story takes place during the early part of the twentieth century. The original book is by Ludwig Anzengruber. Subtitles in English; the film starts at 8 p.m.

DOCUMENTARY FILMS

THURSDAY, April 29: The British Council presents the last two in the "Focus on Soccer" series, starting at 6 p.m. The films "The Striker", with Kevin Keegan and "The Team", with Sir Bobby Charlton and Manchester United.

ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURE

THURSDAY, April 28: Canon John Wilkinson, director of the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, is giving a lecture on the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at 6:30 p.m. at the British Institute.

Bilad Al Sham Congress ends; recommends study centre, land

By Norah Barger
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, April 24 -- The question "Can Arabs write their own history?" has been affirmatively answered during the Third International Congress on the History of Bilad Al Sham (Greater Syria), according to the organisers of the congress, Dr. Adnan Bakhit.

Dr. Bakhit, a professor of history at the University of Jordan, said last week that one of the aims of the congress was to answer this question. The congress, which began Saturday, brought together over 100 scholars from 20 countries to present academic papers concentrating on Palestine. It was held at the University of Jordan in cooperation with Yarmouk University.

After the closing session this morning, Dr. Bakhit told the Jordan Times: "Some of the papers of the Arab scholars ranked among the best. This shows that Arabs are not different from other scholars when they have the proper training and the basic tools available to them. They can produce objective and comprehensive scholarship. It is frequently said that 'knowledge is power'. Objectivity is also power, but in a more ethical manner."

The proper training and basic academic research tools for Arab scholars figured prominently in the recommendations of the congress, read today by Dr. Nasereddin Al Assad, president of the University of Jordan.

Among these recommendations is one calling for centres of documentation and studies in Jordan to house documentary and manuscript material relating to the history of Bilad Al Sham, particularly that of Palestine.

Another suggestion that bibliographic lists be compiled of all dissertations written in Arab and foreign universities on Palestine, and that particularly good ones be published. That important works on Palestine be translated from Arabic into foreign languages and vice versa was also recommended.

On the question of Jerusalem, the congress recommended that a presentation be made to the "competent authorities and organisations for the repair and maintenance of the archaeological monuments and sites -- particularly the Islamic schools -- there, in order to preserve their distinct character."

It was suggested too that a fund

be established to ensure financial support for projects and studies related to Palestine, and for other activities arising from the congress, including seminars held in preparation for the next Bilad Al Sham congress.

His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who presided over the closing session, announced that he was making a contribution to the fund.

In a short speech he thanked all the participants and emphasised the importance of academic exchange. He assured them that the impact of the congress was positive and had made the Jordanian people proud of having hosted it.

Assessing the congress, Dr. Bakhit said he was pleased that most of the scholars had shown

their ability to present and discuss papers in a detached manner, allowing the facts to speak for themselves. "We have proven," he said, "that an international community of scholars can meet and discuss very sensitive topics in a relaxed atmosphere and reach objective conclusions."

He added that the University of Jordan "has been happy to have provided a forum for such distinguished scholars. As part of our academic tradition we did not interfere, infringe, influence, inhibit or prevent anyone from presenting his academic point of view... No politicisation of the scholars was ever attempted."

The main themes in the recorded discussions of the proceedings will be crystallised and embodied in the introduction to the published proceedings of the

congress. A reassessment of the papers will begin very soon, Dr. Bakhit said, and authors will have a chance to revise them before they are made ready for publication.

Today, Mr. Andre Miquel of the College de France spoke on behalf of the non-Arab scholars at the congress to give thanks to Prince Hassan, Dr. Bakhit and others who contributed to the congress. Telegrams have been sent by the participants to His Majesty King Hussein and Prince Hassan thanking them for their patronage of the congress.

This afternoon participants were taken on a trip to the Jordan Valley. Tomorrow they will tour the desert castles and on Sunday and Monday they will visit Petra and Aqaba.

Jewish settlement in Palestine and Ottoman policy

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is the complete text of a paper presented Tuesday by Dr. Ali Hakan Bagis at the Third International Congress on the History of Bilad Al Sham. Dr. Bagis is a professor at Hacettepe University in Turkey.

AS many other minorities, the Jews had lived happily in the Ottoman Empire. While many of these minorities had fought against the Ottoman Government in order to create their own independent states, the Jews had to follow a different method of establishing themselves in Palestine.

The fact was that the Greeks, the Serbs, the Bulgarians and the Romanians had all been supported by foreign powers in their struggles with the Ottomans and had the advantage of living together on the lands they fought for, whereas the Jews lacked both of these advantages.

Therefore, the land where the Jews planned to create a Jewish State had first to be populated or colonised by the Jews; and this was only possible if the sultan tacitly allowed such an aim -- thus the Jews and in particular, Dr. Theodor Herzl, tried to persuade Sultan Abdul Hamid II.

The sultan from the beginning of Zionism, until his deposition from the throne in 1908, continually refused and this frustrated all the efforts of the Jews to have an independent Jewish state. When this began to be clear, the Jews, as it will be shown, endeavoured to purchase lands illegally from the natives in different parts of Palestine.

Although the Berlin Congress had not directly dealt with the Palestine question, it nevertheless left an open door to the Jews. According to article 62, the minorities' property and their religious rights were clearly guaranteed. Soon after the congress in 1879, an English Jew from the Westminster Parliament, Laurence Oliphant, approached the Ottoman government with a long and detailed plan for the creation of an immigration centre in Palestine for European and Turkish Jews.

Oliphant was careful to underline that, by this project the Jews would not be the only beneficiaries, but the area would be an outlet for the Europeans' industrial and agricultural investment. However the Jews were to be allowed to establish a company under the name of the Palestine-Ottoman Company. This would have the right of buying lands to be colonised by the Jews in particular in the province of Balqa, between the Jordan and the Hijaz railway. The land was to be provided and sold cheaply to the company by the Ottoman government. It was proposed that about one million acres be made available. The company was to be under the protection of the sultan

and his government. It was, however to have certain privileges, such as freedom of movement for the company.

By the order of the sultan, a special council was set up in October 1879 to consider the proposals put forward by Oliphant. This was composed of the ministers of interior, justice and commerce. The council recognised that the Jews all over the world had been hoping to come together one day in Palestine. Permission to establish a company would lay the foundation stone for the creation of a Jewish state. This would create many difficulties in the future for the sultan's empire. Needless to say the plan was refused. However, the council at the same time suggested that Oliphant's plan should not be refused outright to avoid any undesirable bitterness against the sultan on the part of the British government at that time. The reason to be given for the refusal was that there was not enough land for such a purpose and also the government was planning to settle Turkish migrants from Rameleh there.

As a result of Tsar Alexander III's Eastern Policy, many Jews found their ways to Istanbul. In 1890 and 1891 the Galata streets were crowded with the newcomers, since so many of them had nowhere else to go. The government sent orders to its governors to discourage the Jews who arrived from Russia from going on to Istanbul. Many of them, however, claimed Ottoman nationality and asked permission to be allowed to stay. The government was unwilling to have the newcomers. It explained its policy in a document dated August 1891 which stated that the Jews had always taken over industry and trade wherever they have gone. Such action by the Jews naturally deprived the natives of their professions. Thus all the countries refused to allow the Jews to emigrate, therefore there was no reason why the Ottoman government should not follow the same policy.

The Jews were to be recommended to emigrate to the United States of America and Argentina instead of coming to the Ottoman Empire. The Jews, however, continued to come and the government in November 1891 was informed that the Jews in Jaffa had coined false Akces. In council the Jewish case was discussed once more and it was decided that if the Jewish emigration was not checked, this would create a serious problem. Therefore, a strong measure had to be taken.

Meanwhile the Jews continued to emigrate to the Holy Land and bought a considerable area. It should be pointed out that all the land transactions were illegal and the government's response was always strong. Here, only a few examples will be given to illustrate the illegal land transactions and the government's policy. Sultan Abdul Hamid throughout 1898, 1899, 1901 and onwards issued several *firmans* (royal decrees) by which the Jews were forbidden from buying lands in Palestine. Nonetheless the government made it clear that the Jews as well as the Christians could freely visit the Holy Places without any restrictions.

It should, however, be underlined that Edmond Rothschild, Baron Hirsch and some other prominent European Jews were behind the illegal land transactions in Palestine. They no doubt thought that by this method Palestine would be colonised by the immigrant Jews. In March 1900 the *muassarrif* (local governor) of Jerusalem, while inform-

ing the government of this situation, also complained bitterly that the lands were being sold illegally by the natives to the Jews.

A document among the State Council Papers (Suray-i Devlet) clearly illustrates the government's attitude. The director of the Registry of Landed Property Bekir Sami Efendi, was involved with such transactions in Jerusalem. After a long inquiry the director was found guilty and removed. The government, however, with the idea of preventing corruption increased the salary of the director from 900 to 1200 *kurus*.

Another example of the government's attitude was that in May 1903 the *rufi* (governor) of Aydin who owned a *efkaf* (estate) in Haifa was prevented from selling it to a German Jew. Again in August 1903 in the *sancak* (an administrative division) of Akko, a civil-servant from the Tobacco Monopoly, Feraci Efendi, wanted to sell his lands in the villages of Berch, Tell Al Duhan, Melhemiyeh and Secere (a total of 50,000 dunams) to a Belgian Jew. Referring to the sultan's *firmans*, the Council of State ruled that no such lands could be sold to foreign Jews. On several occasions, however, the government made it clear that if land was sold to a native Jew, he was asked to guarantee that he would not sell his lands to other Jews or make use of them for colonisation by the Jews.

In another case, a certain Ibrahim Sabbag, Abdulgani Beydan Pasa and his son Zeki Bey, George Musa Jersak and Hasan Al Zamil, acting on behalf of Edmond Rothschild and a French Jew, Nathan Narsis, tried to purchase about 40,000 dunams of land between Akko and Haifa. When the government was informed of this business its reaction was much stronger than before. It was stated that if the land transactions were not stopped there was the risk of the immediate creation of a Jewish state. Thus the officials were instructed that, whoever was involved in such transactions should not only lose his job but also be severely punished. It must be said that in spite of all the government's restrictions, the illegal land transactions went on.

Sultan Abdul Hamid was well informed about Dr. Herzl and the Zionist movement in Europe and elsewhere, through his embassies. Ambassadors Ali Ferruh Bey in Washington and Ahmet Tefik Pasa, the minister of foreign affairs, asked Ali Ferruh whether or not the American Jews were supporting the Zionist movement in Europe. The ambassador was to find out whether the Jews in Izmir had established any relations with the American Jews. Ahmet Tefik Pasa a few days later sent a telegram to London asking if it was true that the Jews had created a fund for a Jewish state in Palestine. Ali Ferruh, while confirming that the *Lemur* Jews had connections with the United States, informed his minister that Baron Hirsch's society, under the presidency of Jacob Barkat, was working for such an end. He also sent a pamphlet published in New York entitled "Der Zionist" written by Isaac Mirsky. Ali Ferruh believed that the government should take the necessary steps to rectify the mistakes that their ancestors had committed. He went further by suggesting that the Muslims who were forced to leave Eastern Rumelia and who were now jobless in Istanbul should be persuaded to settle in Palestine.

Meanwhile Mr. Strauss had

been appointed as the United States ambassador to the Ottoman Empire. Ali Ferruh immediately informed the Foreign Office that Mr. Strauss was an active Zionist who delivered several speeches at Zionist congresses in New York, Philadelphia and Chicago. Ferruh Bey said that upon the nomination of Mr. Strauss, the Jews increased their activities and meetings for an independent Jewish state. He added that the movement would take a very serious shape in following years.

In late 1898 when the German emperor was about to visit the Holy Places, the Foreign Ministry seems to have loosened its restrictions on Jews visiting Palestine. Meanwhile the number of Jews applying for visas in the Ottoman embassy in Washington increased. Ali Ferruh refused the visas, saying he was awaiting instructions. When he received none he suspected a change of policy due to Mr. Strauss' activities and influence in Istanbul. He then complained about Ahmet Tefik Pasa directly to the Yildiz Palace. He even went so far as to say that all he had done in Washington was sacrificed to the minister's personal policy.

Ali Ferruh, who spoke English well, established good relations with the press. He, therefore tried to inform public opinion of his government's attitude vis-a-vis the Jews. In a press conference he declared that "The Sublime Porte does not desire to sell any part of its Arabian country and no matter how many millions in gold are offered, this determination will not be altered." He continued by saying that the Zionists must refrain "from creating difficulties for the Turkish government by attempting to put chimeric ideas into execution." He believed that "the only results which can flow from this attempt will be harmful to their peaceable and happy co-religionists in Turkey."

The Ottoman ambassador in Berlin, in a dispatch dated Aug. 17, 1900, while informing the foreign minister about Zionism, thought that for the time being it was not a serious movement. He commented that Zionists were only talking in vague terms of their aims. Nonetheless, he believed that the movement would sooner

or later become serious and would do its best to settle the Jews in Palestine. The ambassador regularly informed Istanbul of the movement; and at the time of the Zionist Congress at Basel in August 1903 he seems to have changed his attitude, for he warned the government that necessary steps must be taken to prevent Jewish immigration to Palestine and to stop them buying lands under any guise. The ambassador also obtained a copy of the interview that Dr. Herzl had with the Russian Minister Plavov where Herzl was told that the Russian government would not hinder the Jews from going to Palestine.

It is needless to enter into the details of Dr. Herzl's activities in Istanbul. It is a well known fact that until his death in 1904 he travelled there several times to persuade the sultan to grant a charter for the colonisation of Palestine by the Jews. Herzl knew well the financial difficulties of the Ottoman Empire and offered the Sultan his financial assistance to rescue it.

Though Abdul Hamid had expressed his sympathy to Herzl, he was not willing to grant the charter. In order to show his sympathy to the Jews, the Sultan even went so far as to send a message to the Zionist Congress then at work at Basel in December 1901. Upon the receipt of this message there were even rumours that the sultan agreed to grant the charter which Herzl asked for. But in January 1902 Foreign Minister Ahmet Tefik Pasa instructed his ambassador in Berlin to deny the rumours, saying that the sultan had never agreed to permit the installation of Zionists in Palestine. However, the sultan, in order to frustrate Herzl, agreed to grant the charter for emigration, anywhere in the Ottoman Empire but Palestine. When Herzl lost his hope in the sultan, he turned towards England.

In conclusion it is interesting to note that although the sultan was hostile to the creation of a Jewish state, yet in a private conversation with his personal doctor, Atil Huseyin, he admitted that in spite of all the difficulties, sooner or later the Zionists would be successful in realising their dreams as a result of their economic power.

Local News Briefs



Princess Sarvath opens a children's book exhibition.

AMMAN, April 24 (JNA)--Her Highness Princess Sarvath opened this evening an exhibition of children's books at the Palace of Culture. The exhibition, sponsored by the Friends of the Children, lays publications and books for children in different languages: Jordanian, Arab and foreign authors. Attending the opening ceremony were the daughters of His Highness Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath, several cabinet members, members of the diplomatic corps in Jordan and a big audience of children and their parents.

ATHENS, April 24 (JNA)--China's Vice-minister of Agriculture Zhongshi arrived here today from Syria for a five-day visit to him. He said his visit is part of a tour of several Arab states to acquaint himself with agricultural activities and discuss Chinese-Syrian cooperation in agricultural fields. Mr. Hao, who is accompanied by a nine-member delegation from his ministry, will hold talks with officials at the ministries of agriculture, supply, industry and commerce. He will also tour agricultural projects in Jordan as well as the Agricultural Credit Corporation, the Jordan Cooperative Organisation, the Royal Scientific Society, the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Jordan and dairy farms. Upon arrival here the Chinese delegation was met by the Under-secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Hassan Gharybeh, and several Jordanian officials.

AMMAN, April 24 (JT)--The Prime Minister, Sharif Abdul Hamid II, announced in a communique issued today that all government departments and public institutions will be closed on Thursday, May 1, International Labour Day.

AMMAN, April 24 (JNA)--Minister of Industry and Trade Ali al-Sarraf returned to Amman from Baghdad, where he headed the delegation to the meeting of the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) which opened last Saturday. He said that participants in the four-day meeting discussed economic cooperation among countries in the region, rural development and ECWA's achievements over the past two years. During his stay in Baghdad, al-Sarraf met with the Iraqi minister of industry and trade to discuss ways of promoting cooperation between Jordan and Iraq in industrial fields.

AMMAN, April 24 (JNA)--Arrangements for a visit here next month by a Greek educational delegation were reviewed today by the cultural attaché at the Greek Embassy in Amman and the director of the Department of Cultural Affairs at the Foreign Ministry. The delegation will discuss during its visit developing Greek-Jordanian educational cooperation.

AMMAN, April 24 (JNA)--The visiting Soviet educational delegation today visited the comprehensive school for boys, the polytechnic institute in Amman and the Martyr's monument. The delegation held its first formal round of talks with a team from the Ministry of Education yesterday. The two sides discussed means of developing educational and cultural cooperation, particularly in vocational training and the exchange of university scholarships. The Jordanian side was led by the under-secretary of the Ministry of Education, Mr. Thirni Rafat, and the Soviet delegation was headed by the Deputy Minister of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education, Mr. Nikolai Yegorov. The Soviet delegation later paid a visit to the Princess Alia women teachers' training institute in Amman and looked into its activities.

MAFRAQ, April 24 (JNA)--The Ministry of Social Development will soon set up six community centres in the northern desert areas of Jordan, a spokesman for the Social Development Department here said yesterday. He said appropriate pieces of land have already been allocated for the project in six bedouin settlements. The project is intended to cater to the needs of mothers and children and provide other social services aimed at improving living conditions for the bedouins, he said. According to the spokesman, the Queen Alia Jordan Welfare Fund is making arrangements to finance the project. The fund has plans for financing the establishment of 30 such centres around the country.

AMMAN, April 24 (JT)--The number of visitors to Jordan in 1979 registered an increase of 10.3 per cent over the 1978 figures, according to the Director General of the Department of Statistics, Mr. Burhan Al Shraideh. He said some 2,530,370 people visited the country last year, as compared with 1,861,620 in 1978. Most of the visitors were from other Arab countries, but there were 19,939 visitors from Britain, almost an equal number from West Germany and 55,930 from the United States.

AMMAN, April 24 (JNA)--A statistical bulletin issued yesterday by the Lands and Surveys Department said that revenues accrued last month as fees for transactions and the registration of land and real estate amounted to JD 1,268,478. This, it said, was a record monthly figure. The figure for March 1979 was JD 1,036,026.

ZARQA, April 24 (JNA)--A visiting delegation from the Organisation of Arab Cities (OAC) called at Zarqa Municipality yesterday to acquaint itself with the municipality's projects. Among these are some being financed by the OAC, especially the establishment of a "handicraft district" in Zarqa, public parks and playgrounds. The delegation later toured some of the sites of these projects. OAC has granted Zarqa Municipality a JD 300,000 loan to help finance its projects.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	302.50/304.50
U.K. sterling	688.20/692.50
West German mark	166.30/167.30
Swiss franc	178.50/179.60
French franc	71.40/71.80
Italian lire	35.40/35.60
(for every 100)	
Japanese yen	124.00/124.70
(for every 100)	
Dutch guilder	151.10/152.00
Swedish crown	70.40/70.80
Belgian franc	103.80/104.40

TODAY'S WEATHER

It will be fine, with low clouds. Wind will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

	Overnight	Daytime
	low	high
Amman	12	19
Aqaba	18	30
Deserts	13	29
Jordan Valley	17	28

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Economic News Briefs

Morocco plans to build nuclear plant

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, April 24 (AP) -- Morocco is planning to construct its first nuclear power plant following the discovery of uranium extracted from phosphate, the Yugoslav News Agency Tanjug reported from Rabat in the pool of non-aligned agencies. The report said location of the plant has not yet been determined but that Moroccan officials estimate it could be inaugurated in 10 years.

Mass production of the uranium is anticipated by 1983, the report said. It said production of the uranium would really decrease oil's share in the overall energy consumption and relax Morocco's dependence on oil imports, which at present cost the country \$1 billion a year. It added, however, that Morocco had not yet worked out how it would obtain the resources to build the plant.

Arab banks to issue own travellers checks

PARIS, April 24 (AP) -- The Arab Bank Union, 125 banks from 17 Arab countries, has decided to study the possibility of issuing its own travellers checks, it announced today. The decision was taken at the union's annual meeting here yesterday.

The banking group has also decided to set up an arbitration panel to deal with disputes between members and between Arab and foreign banks, and to set up a banking and financial institute at Abu Dhabi to train future managers.

Although the union, formed in 1974, is officially headquartered in Beirut, it is likely to be moved to Abu Dhabi soon, sources said.

Despite huge civil war losses Lebanon's economy shows amazing powers of recovery

BEIRUT, April (Agencies) -- A report presented by U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to the General Assembly says that the Lebanese civil war claimed 60,000 lives, sparked the migration of half a million people, and resulted in damage which "it remains impossible to evaluate because its effects persist in all spheres of activity."

The report, which was prepared by the coordinator of U.N. agencies in Lebanon, Mr. Iqbal Akhund, was released earlier this month. Mr. Waldheim will explain the report to the U.N. Economic and Development Committee. Following are its most important points:

-- The Lebanese war, which started in 1975, claimed 60,000 lives and caused widespread damage to property. An estimate by the ministry of planning in 1977 had said that the material loss in both the public and private sectors in 1975-76 had reached 7,500 million Lebanese lira (L.L.) and that the gross national product had

dropped by L.L. 2,577 million and L.L. 6,014 million in 1975 and 1976 respectively. More than a million people were displaced, and in the South, 15,000 houses were partially or totally destroyed.

-- The war sparked the emigration of large numbers of skilled workers. According to one estimate, 500,000 people have left the country over the past few years, including 30-40 per cent of the industrial labour force.

-- The troubles have resulted in the collapse of services in all sectors. The inability of the government to control all areas of the country had an effect on the collection of income tax and on stopping the large-scale smuggling operations now underway. As a result, there was a deficit of L.L. 858 million in the 1978 budget, and of L.L. one billion in 1979.

-- The inflation and unemployment crisis have become acute, but it should be noted that despite the tremendous difficulties facing the Lebanese economy, statistics issued by the

ministry of industry and oil show that exports in 1979 totalled L.L. 1.2 billion, a 63 per cent increase over the previous year. In the same year, the value of equipment and raw material imports totalled L.L. 490 million. Despite the continuing increase in smuggling, revenues from customs duties totalled L.L. 682 million in 1979, a 34 per cent increase over the previous year. The deficit in the trade balance in 1979 amounted to L.L. 4.5 billion, but remittances from Lebanese immigrants exceeded the deficit -- an indication of their faith in the country's future. Bank deposits increased from L.L. 9 billion in 1974 to L.L. 15 billion in 1978 and L.L. 19 billion in 1979. The rise in the price of gold has greatly increased the value of the Central Bank's gold reserves and foreign currency.

-- Despite these figures, one cannot say that the Lebanese economy is heading toward prosperity. But the fact that it continues to operate is an indicator of the capacity of the economy to

grow rapidly and overcome the present obstacles.

-- The Reconstruction and Development Board (RDB) has drawn up a reconstruction programme involving several essential projects, and in 1978 the total cost of the programme was estimated at L.L. 22 billion, while the overall cost of the development programme was estimated at L.L. 4 billion. These figures should be revised because of the inflation that has occurred meanwhile. Despite internal troubles and the Israeli invasion (of South Lebanon) in 1978, work on certain projects had started, as at the Beirut port and airport. Loans and credits obtained by the Lebanese government at the time amounted to \$470,064m.

However, the programme of reconstruction has not started to be effectively implemented yet, and the RDB says that financing is not enough, but what is also needed is the capacity of the government to operate effectively and the availability of the required skills.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

One sterling	2.2630/45	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1823/28	Canadian dollar
	1.8170/80	West German marks
	2.0025/5	Dutch guilders
	1.6985/7005	Swiss francs
	29.09/12	Belgian francs
	4.2375/2425	French francs
	851.25/852.25	Italian lire
	244.30/60	Japanese yen
	4.2875/2900	Swedish crowns
	5.000/35	Norwegian crowns
	5.7025/50	Danish Crowns
One ounce of gold	524.00/527.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, April 24 (R) -- The market finished lower after narrow fluctuations, dealers said. At 1500 the FT index was down 1.2 at 434.0.

Anxieties over Middle East tensions, a shortage of liquidity and end of year book-selling operations by some jobbers combined to reduce turnover, dealers added. Oils were a weak feature with both BP and Shell ending 8p lower, while Burmah and Ultramar dipped 6p apiece. Government bonds drifted as much as 3/8 point down. Canadian stocks were a shade lower where changed while Americans were quietly mixed.

Furness Withy closed 27p up at 408 following news the bid from Orient Overseas would not be referred to the Monopolies Commission while Linford shed 9p after announcing a rights issue. Figures prompted gains of 5p and 2p in both Total and Dunlop. Also after results, Hoover was unchanged at 169p. Turner and Newall shed 1p after the annual meeting.

Gold shares had gains of as much as \$2 1/4 following the higher trend in the bullion price.



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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, APR. 25, 1980

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is an excellent time to engage in activities you really enjoy. Be alert for unexpected opportunities coming your way. Show that you are scientific, precise and have wisdom.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Any work you do today can give fine benefits, be it in any realm of your existence. Enjoy the company of congenials.

AURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Make arrangements early in the day for recreations over the weekend. Find better ways of improving your appearance.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Take time to handle those all tasks at home and they are soon behind you. This is a good day to buy supplies you need.

SCORPIO (June 22 to July 21) Show that you communicate well with others. Long-time associates most favorable to you now.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Handle monetary affairs early in the day since you have the power to be clever and exact that time. Be more sure of yourself.

LIBRA (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Engage in activities that improve your image and bring you greater success. Ending is fine for sprucing up personal life.

SCORPIO (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Sit in the quiet of your own and figure out how to operate more efficiently and stably in the future.

SAGITTARIUS (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Confide in a good friend or assist you with some personal problem you have. Wary of one who is gossipy.

SCORPIO (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Engage in those activities you like that can add to your prestige. Let your work stand out as something superior.

SCORPIO (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Any new project could be studied very carefully before you go ahead with it. Not a good day to make changes.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be very precise in the handling of any special work you want to do. Try to be a critical of others today.

SCORPIO (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Know what it is associates expect of you and coordinate efforts more intelligently. Open relationship with new acquaintance.

JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

European Cup semi-final results

LONDON, April 24 (R) -- Nottingham Forest of England and West Germany's Hamburg will contest the 25th final of the European Soccer Cup in the Bernabeu stadium, Madrid, on May 28. But they booked their places at the silver anniversary celebrations in contrasting fashion in tonight's semi-final second leg ties.

Holders Forest lost 1-0 to Ajax Amsterdam in the Netherlands but won 2-1 on aggregate while Hamburg, trailing 2-0 to Real Madrid, thrashed the Spanish club 5-1 in West Germany for a 5-3 aggregate success. It was a crushing defeat for Real, winners of the first competition in 1956, who had entertained high hopes of notching up their seventh success in their own magnificent ground.

Ajax, winners in 1971, 1972 and 1973, stretched their unbeaten home run in European ties to 49 matches -- and ended Forest's unbeaten away record -- but could not score the necessary second goal to take the game into extra time.

That was mainly due to the stunning performance of England international goalkeeper Peter Shilton who denied Ajax with a string of remarkable second half saves. But Shilton finally had to admit defeat in the 65th minute when, following Ajax's 15th corner of the match, Danish midfielder Soren Lerby rose unchallenged to head home.

While Forest were fighting their rearward action Hamburg were launching an all-out offensive on the Real Madrid goal. By half-time they had scored four goals and although the Spaniards hit back through English striker Laurie Cunningham, Hamburg clinched victory with a fifth after the interval.

With England's footballer of the year, Kevin Keegan tightly

marked by Real's defence it was left to defender Manfred Kaltz (two) Horst Hrubesch (two) and Caspar Memering to score the goals. But Keegan so frustrated the Real defence that he provoked a flash of temper from Del Bosque, who was sent off five minutes from time.

Valencia, who lost their semi-final first leg tie 2-1 against Nantes in France, won 4-0 tonight with their costly imported stars West German Rainer Bonhof and Argentine Mario Kempes scoring three between them. Bonhof opened the scoring in the 10th minute and after Subirats had given Valencia a 2-0 interval lead World Cup star Kempes struck in the 60th and 77th minutes.

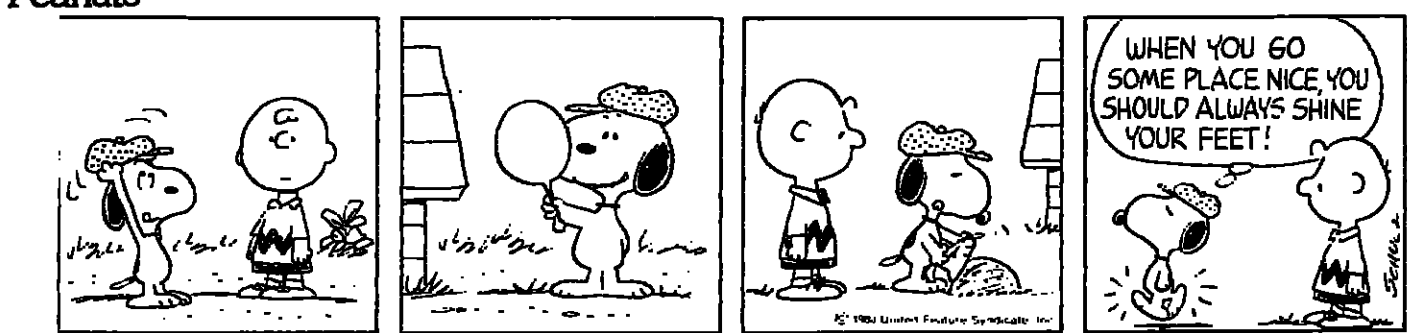
Arsenal had seemed to have lost their chance of reaching the final when they could only draw 1-1 with Juventus of Italy in London two weeks ago. But they stunned the Italians with a disciplined defensive display and many of the 66,386 crowd were already on their way home when Arsenal substitute Paul Vaisanen grabbed the only goal of the game three minutes from time.

Meanwhile, Liverpool moved nearer their 12th English league soccer title with a 2-0 victory over Stoke last night but Manchester United stayed within catching distance. United, second in the league, beat Aston Villa 2-1 with Joe Jordan scoring both goals. They now have 56 points, one behind Liverpool who have a game in hand.

Two powerful headers from Jordan, one in the fourth minute and the other from a free kick in the 69th, kept Manchester's championship hopes alive. David Johnson and David Fairclough scored the goals for Liverpool.

In Scotland, Aberdeen went to the top of the premier division after beating league leaders Celtic 3-1 in Glasgow. Both teams now have 42 points but Aberdeen have a better goal difference.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3

18:00 Koran
18:15 Coruons
18:30 Children's programme
11:30 Religious programme
12:15 The Wings
12:45 The Wings
14:00 Soccer
14:25 National Drama
15:30 Arabic series
15:35 Religious seminar
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Fashion through history of Jordan
21:00 Arabic series
22:15 Arabic programme
23:30 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

18:30 French programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Fashion through history of Jordan
21:10 Turkey's progress
22:00 News in English
22:15 A Prime Minister on Prime Ministers
22:40 Sports and social

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on
7:10 Morning Show
7:30 News Bulletin
7:40 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:30 The World of Philip Marlowe
11:00 Signing off
12:00 Signing on and News Headlines
12:45 Radiothèque
13:00 News Summary
13:10 Country Music
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Music
14:30 Country Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:30 News Listening
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Talking Point
17:30 Radiothèque
18:00 News Summary
18:30 American Concerts
19:30 Story Time

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS:

7:55 Cairo (EA)
8:45 Jeddah
8:55 Agaba
9:10 Larnaca (CY)
9:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
9:15 Doha, Kuwait
10:00 Beirut
12:05 Kowloon (KAC)
12:30 Tripoli, Benghazi (LN)
15:25 Cairo (EA)
15:35 Jeddah, Medina (SD)
16:45 Cairo
17:30 Paris
17:45 New York, Amsterdam
18:10 Madrid, Athens
18:30 London
19:30 Frankfurt
19:45 Beirut (MEA)
21:00 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (LH)
21:45 Damascus
22:55 Cairo (EA)
23:05 London (BA)
01:00 Cairo

DEPARTURES:

7:00 Agaba
8:25 Cairo (EA)
9:25 Beirut (MEA)
10:00 Frankfurt
10:10 Larnaca (CY)
11:30 Cairo
12:00 London
12:30 Athens, Copenhagen
12:30 Vienna, New York, Houston
13:00 Kuwait (KAC)
13:30 Cairo
13:35 Benghazi, Tripoli (LN)
16:35 Cairo (EA)
16:35 Medina, Jeddah (SD)
18:30 Beirut
19:35 Damascus
20:45 Tehran
20:50 Kuwait, Doha
21:40 Dubai, Karachi
23:00 Abu Dhabi, Ras Al Khaimah
23:55 Cairo (EA)
01:05 Rasdipoli (BA)

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:
Abdul Halim Al-Agha (Wahdat)
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Samir Othman (52499)
Zangir
Najla Amman (826801)

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Zangir
Al-Shalab

TAXIS:

ILN (42201)
Al-Ramtha (37249)
Al-Ramtha (22023)
Al-Jamrah (61001)

BBC RADIO

GMT

04:00 Newsdesk
04:30 Letter from London, Play Choice
05:00 News, 24 Hours
05:30 Special English: news, feature
06:00 News, 24 Hours
06:30 Special English: news, feature
07:00 News, 24 Hours
07:30 Special English: news, feature
08:00 News, 24 Hours
08:30 Special English: news, feature
09:00 News, 24 Hours
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23:30 Special English: news, feature
24:00 News, 24 Hours

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VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT

03:30 The Breakfast Show
04:30 News, pop music, features, listeners' questions
05:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analysis
05:30 Special English: news, feature
06:00 News, 24 Hours
06:30 Country Music USA
07:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analysis
07:30 VOA Magazine: Americans, science, culture, letters
08:00 Special English: news
08:15 Music USA (12:27)
21:00 VOA World Report
22:00 News, Correspondents' reports, background features, media comments, analysis

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Hebrew Youth City 67181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. 64281
Amman Municipal Library 34111
University of Jordan Library 65111
Cinema Museum 34191
Folklore Museum 34191

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

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Civil defence rescue 24191-4
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) 36811-2
Municipal water service (emergency) 37111-3
Police headquarters 34143
Najdah (voluntary) rescue police (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergencies 21111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA) 26206
Jordan Television 24111
Radio, English section 74124
Fire, fire, police 10
Fire headquarters 22996

CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)

American Centre 41538
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37999
German Institute 46093
Soviet Cultural Centre 41093
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World economic condition will worsen, warns IMF

HAMBURG, West Germany, April 24 (R) — International Monetary Fund (IMF) experts have warned world financial leaders that their countries face declining industrial output, widespread unemployment and increased inflationary pressures for the next few years, informed sources said today.

IMF statistics handed to finance ministers and central bank governors at the two-day meeting of the IMF interim committee here indicated real growth will fall to about 1.4 per cent in the industrialised countries this year from 3.4 per cent in 1979, the sources said.

Flexible economic policies will be needed to curb inflation without sending the world into a spiral towards the first major depression since the 1930s, the experts are saying.

They have also warned that available funds to help developing countries hit by rising oil prices will tend to be squeezed as the world economy worsens, the sources said.

Both industrial and developing countries are represented at the

meeting of the chief policy-making body of the 140-member IMF.

The message to governments from the experts is to use greater flexibility in their taxation policies and measures to meet the challenge of new technology.

The arguments have been heard before, but they are taking on new urgency at the meeting here, amid fears of possible economic warfare as nations seek to protect their own industries and economies by export subsidies, import restrictions and tight money policies.

Interest rates worldwide have already been driven to record heights this year and many governments face pressure for import controls.

The developing countries, alarmed that one of their best

sources of funds may be threatened, urged the industrial West today to stop trying to restrict the flow of money through the international commercial banking system.

Monetary authorities in the industrial countries recently decided to strengthen their monitoring of the Eurodollar market, where dollars circulate outside the United States, to maintain its stability and guard against loan defaults.

"Since the role of the private financial system has become increasingly important and essential for many less-developed countries, it is fundamental that this market should be kept free from interference," said a communiqué issued this morning by the developing nations' delegates.

They also voiced concern that IMF gold reserves, rather than being sold to provide aid for developing countries, might be used in future to back-up a scheme to stabilise currency markets.

IMF Managing Director Jacques de Larosiere has proposed the use of 25 million to 30 million ounces of the IMF's total gold reserves of 103 million ounces to promote the scheme, known as the substitution account, to encourage surplus dollars to be invested in the IMF.

Turkish envoy's wife convicted of smuggling

BOMBAY, April 24 (AP) — A Turkish diplomat's wife went in court after she was convicted today of smuggling gold into India and sentenced to two years at hard labour, the United News of India (UNI) reported. Magistrate A.B. Kale, however, freed Mrs. Ermete Nemrin for one month on bail worth \$34,375 after the 42-year-old woman told him she planned to appeal the verdict to a higher court. She also was ordered to pay a fine of about \$12,500 by the magistrate. Mr. Kale said that if she failed to pay, she would be sentenced to another year in prison.

The Turkish woman was charged in the case with smuggling gold into India worth about \$255,000. She was arrested at Bombay international airport in July 1978 after a suspicious customs official asked her to open her bags. She refused, claiming diplomatic immunity, but then said the bags were not hers when the official persisted with questions. A search of the luggage revealed the gold, the court was told.

Her husband, Mr. Orhan Ermete, was consul in the Turkish embassy in New Delhi when the incident occurred. A few months later, he returned to Turkey.

At the time, she was arrested for two months and charged with evading customs duty and bringing gold into the country without authority and by fraudulent means. She was released in October 1978 on the equivalent of \$35,000 bail.

Yugoslavia: U.S.-Soviet arms race is 'dangerous threat' to non-aligned states

SARAJEVO, Yugoslavia April 24 (AP) — A high-ranking Yugoslav official has warned that the arms race between Washington and Moscow constitutes "one of the most dangerous threats" to non-aligned states and hinted that Yugoslavia would repel any attempt to attack the country after the death of President Tito.

Mr. Cvijetic Mijatovic, a member of Yugoslavia's nine-man presidency and the man widely tipped to succeed Mr. Tito, said superpower rivalry was "becoming a threat to the independence of states. The non-aligned countries are especially jeopardised," he said.

Mr. Mijatovic was addressing delegates to the assembly of the republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, which he represents in the presidency.

Pressure on the non-aligned

states was increasing, Mr. Mijatovic said, "in order to break up their unity." Both superpowers wanted the movement "engaged to its own benefit," he added without elaborating.

But he cautioned that although Yugoslavia wanted to maintain relations with both sides, it would follow the same independent path as under Mr. Tito, and would not accept any outside interference in its affairs.

"Yugoslavia has never demanded any change, nor will it ever demand any change in its borders with any of the neighbouring countries," he said.

Socialist countries bordering Yugoslavia are Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania. It is also next to Italy, Austria and Greece.

Mr. Mijatovic's remarks constituted one of the strongest policy

statements by a presidency member since the start of Mr. Tito's hospitalisation in January, and appeared to be yet another attempt to boost the nation's confidence for the post-Tito era.

Under the rotating system of the presidency, Mr. Mijatovic is expected to become vice-president of the country in mid-May. If President Tito dies, he is likely to automatically take over the presidency from that time.

Currently, Yugoslavia's vice-president is Mr. Lazar Kolisevski.

Yugoslavia would have no alternative in the event of interference by a foreign power but to "stand by the thesis of an armed people," Mr. Mijatovic said, "capable of protecting and defending the achievements of unity." Yugoslavia, he said, was able to "take care of itself."

Asian airlines increasing share of regional market

BANGKOK, Thailand, April 24 (AP) — Asian hospitality and service are enticing more passengers to travel on Asian airlines, putting more and more pressure on the major European carriers over the regional routes which they have dominated for so long.

An Associated Press survey of the national carriers of five Southeast Asian countries revealed that profits have risen up to 50 per cent in the past 20 years and that the carriers' share of the market in their home countries has grown from an average of ten per cent to 52 per cent in the last decade.

The most successful of these, Singapore Airlines, now has total revenue of \$450 million and carries the most passengers of any airline in Southeast Asia — an estimated 2.5 million a year.

The airlines themselves have grown in size, with rapid acquisition of modern aircraft such as 747s, DC-10s and Airbuses.

The Southeast Asian carriers now have fleets that range up to Singapore Airlines' 17 wide-body aircraft. Thai International's 13 and the Philippines Airlines' ten.

Last year, Indonesia's flag carrier, Garuda, carried 52 per cent of the passengers into and from the country. Almost 300,000 out of one million passengers that arrived in Manila travelled by Philippine Airlines. Malaysian Airline System has virtually a monopoly in the domestic routes and the government said there is still room to expand.

Although the five Southeast Asian national carriers are state-owned, the airlines are not getting direct subsidies from their governments. Most are making profits, and some are getting foreign loans guaranteed by their governments.

S. Korean coalminers call off riots

SEOUL, April 24 (R) — Four days of rioting by South Korean coalminers, in which a policeman was killed and dozens injured, appeared over today after management agreed to some of the miners' demands.

Eyewitnesses said the Sabuk mining area on the east coast was strewn with wreckage, the administrative offices sacked and documents burned, the ground littered with broken glass and 20 cars of mine and union officials smashed and overturned.

Officials estimated that damage to property, looting of shops and homes, and lost production at the mine would put the cost of the four-day rampage at over \$1 million.

Officials said it would be several days before production would begin again at Tongwon mine as water and poisonous gases had accumulated after the shutdown of pumping and ventilation systems.

The mine, the largest privately-owned coalmine in South Korea, has an annual production of 1.65 million tons of anthracite accounting for 12 per

cent of the country's total needs.

The breakthrough came when miners agreed to interim terms from management for a 20 per cent pay increase backdated to January with a promise that the miners' 42 per cent demand be reconsidered when the government agrees on new coal prices.

The management also agreed to pay money withheld from miners last year as a disciplinary measure, pay medical costs for those injured in the riots and increase annual bonuses from two-and-a-half to four months' pay.

The town was barricaded and manned by miners armed with picks, wooden clubs and iron bars while about 1,000 armed riot police encircled the area. So the agreed terms were passed to the militant miners in leaflets dropped from a helicopter.

Hundreds of miners immediately began dismantling the barricades and sweeping the glass-strewn street while 300 riot police withdrew by train to the capital.

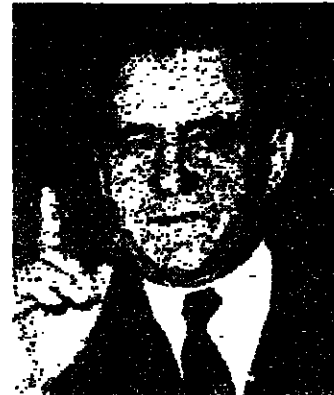
USSR reaffirms resolve to work for detente, overcome world problems

PARIS, April 24 (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko today reaffirmed Moscow's resolve to work for detente and overcome current world problems, but said everything did not depend on his country.

Mr. Gromyko was speaking after luncheon talks with French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing during his first visit to a Western country since the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan last December.

French leaders have been pressing the Russians to withdraw their troops to avoid confrontation and cold war.

Mr. Gromyko, who had a 90-minute private meeting with Mr. Giscard d'Estaing before two



Andrei Gromyko

hours of luncheon talks, said his discussions with the president had been "constructive and useful."

"We would like to believe that the talks will be a contribution to the continued development of Franco-Soviet relations, which in our view would meet the interests not only of France and the Soviet Union, but also of the whole world," Mr. Gromyko said.

"The Soviet Union is first committed to the pursuit of detente and wishes that the difficulties which have emerged in the development of the international situation should be overcome."

The Soviet foreign minister said his country would work in this

direction, "but everything does not depend on us." He added: "We express the hope France will act in the same way."

Although French officials promised some tough talking to the Soviet visitor, they have at the same time stressed the importance of keeping dialogue with the Kremlin alive, particularly in the present twin crises over Afghanistan and the American hostages in Tehran.

During the meeting with Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, a group of Soviet dissidents and French sympathisers demonstrated nearby against Mr. Gromyko's presence.

Police kept the demonstrators well away from the palace gates, but allowed two of them — exiled Soviet writer Viktor Fainberg and French philosopher Bernard Henri Lévy — to present a petition to the French president calling for the release of political prisoners in the Soviet Union.

The demonstrators, who also included mathematician Leonid Plyushch and ex-general Piotr Grigorenko, held banners reading "liberate the political prisoners," and calling for the release of Mr. Vladimir Borisov, organiser of an illegal trade union movement, who was interned last month in a Leningrad psychiatric hospital.

S. African police arrest prominent black leaders

JOHANNESBURG, April 24 (AP) — Security police arrested four prominent black leaders in raids in Johannesburg and Capetown while more than 100,000 non-white students were reported to have joined a nationwide boycott of schools.

The student boycott was called by coloured (mixed-race) students to protest the disparity in money the government spends on white and coloured schools.

One of the four arrested leaders was already banned under South Africa's security law. Banning restricts the freedom of action and speech of persons considered by the government to pose a threat to the country's racial policies.

Brigadier Jan du Preez said the men were detained under a law that allows persons to be held for renewable periods of 14 days without being charged.

Among those arrested yesterday were Mr. Curtis Nkondo, a founder of the Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) and Mr. Achmad Cassiem, banned former leader of the South African Students Association. Earlier this week, Police Minister Louis le Grange had warned Azapo that police had evidence it was furthering the aims of banned political

movements.

Mr. le Grange's statement was seen as a serious warning of possible police action against new black organisations that have revived the black consciousness movement.

The government had crippled the movement, founded by the late Steve Biko, by banning black consciousness groups and arresting leaders in 1977. The movement's aim was to improve the black majority's view of itself and to seek political power independent of white liberals opposed to white minority rule here.

Shortly before he was arrested, Mr. Nkondo spoke at a white university in support of the school boycott. Earlier this week, he was accused of being the "agitator" responsible for inciting the boycott.

Mr. Nkondo told the white students they should support the boycott. "We want good education now, and if that means I am to be banned then let the banning order come this afternoon," he said.

A coloured teachers association which supports the boycott said the government spends four times as much on white schools as on coloured ones.

Reclaiming a war-scarred land

By Michael Battye

CU CHI, Vietnam — Five years after the communist victory in southern Vietnam, the authorities here are finally assembling their dead in a common graveyard.

White concrete boxes stretch out over several hectares under a 20-metre-high tower proclaiming the deeds of dead communist guerrillas. Coffins are stacked up in sheds nearby.

The length of time it has taken for the dead to be assembled here, some 40 kilometres northwest of Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), symbolises the slowness with which life is returning to normal in this, one of the bitterest battlefields of the Vietnam war.

The coffins have had to be brought from their original resting places scattered over the area, once the most fought-over in southern Vietnam.

Many of the dead — the communist guerrillas suffered some 10,000 casualties in the area, according to Vietnamese Army Lieutenant Vo Minh who fought here — will never be found.

Their bones were scattered over the area which became a "free fire zone" where anything that moved was considered a legitimate target by the former South Vietnamese Government and its U.S. ally.

At the height of the American involvement in the Vietnam war, the region around Cu Chi was stripped of its population, bulldozers linked by chains tore away the tree cover, then defoliant killed the rest of the vegetation.

The aim was to clear the area of communist guerrillas. But the plan never succeeded as the guerrillas disappeared underground to continue the war from a network of tunnels first built during the war against France in the early 1950s.

Lieutenant Minh told reporters. Lieutenant Minh, who said he once spent five months in the tunnels without surfacing, said the network was expanded to some 200 kilometres and provided homes for thousands of guerrillas and support teams.

With a smile, he proudly scraped away a few leaves by the side of a path to reveal a small concrete slab that covered the entrance to the tunnel network.

Underneath was a small chamber, big enough for two men. Lieutenant Minh pointed to the shell of an American armoured

World News Briefs

GAUHATI, India, April 24 (R) — Police used a lathi (cane) charge to disperse about 300 people, including women and children, marching on the oil pipeline headquarters at Narengi in India's north-eastern Assam state today. Eyewitnesses said the people ran off in all directions and several were injured as the police waded in. Troops and para-military police have been preventing demonstrators from reaching the oil installation near the state capital of Gauhati, where striking oil workers have now joined a popular movement against migrant workers in Assam. Crude oil has been prevented from leaving Assam for other parts of India since last December by the student-led agitation, which wants all Bangladeshi, Nepalese and West Bengalis expelled from the state.

SINGAPORE, April 24 (R) — A U.S. naval task force, including the aircraft carrier Constellation, is now in Singapore waters on its way to an undisclosed destination, American embassy officials said today. Informed sources said, however, that the warships appeared to be heading for the Indian Ocean, scene of a U.S. naval buildup since the start of the Afghan and Iranian crises. The embassy officials said the task force also included two missile cruisers, three frigates and a destroyer. The American aircraft carrier Okinawa and seven other warships went to the Indian Ocean six weeks ago. About 1,800 marines were with that force. In January, the U.S. aircraft carrier Coral Sea and five other warships passed through Singapore waters en route to the same area. Admiral Robert Long, commander-in-chief of the U.S. forces in the Pacific and the Far East, said during a recent visit here that U.S. naval strength in the Indian Ocean would continue to grow for some time to come.

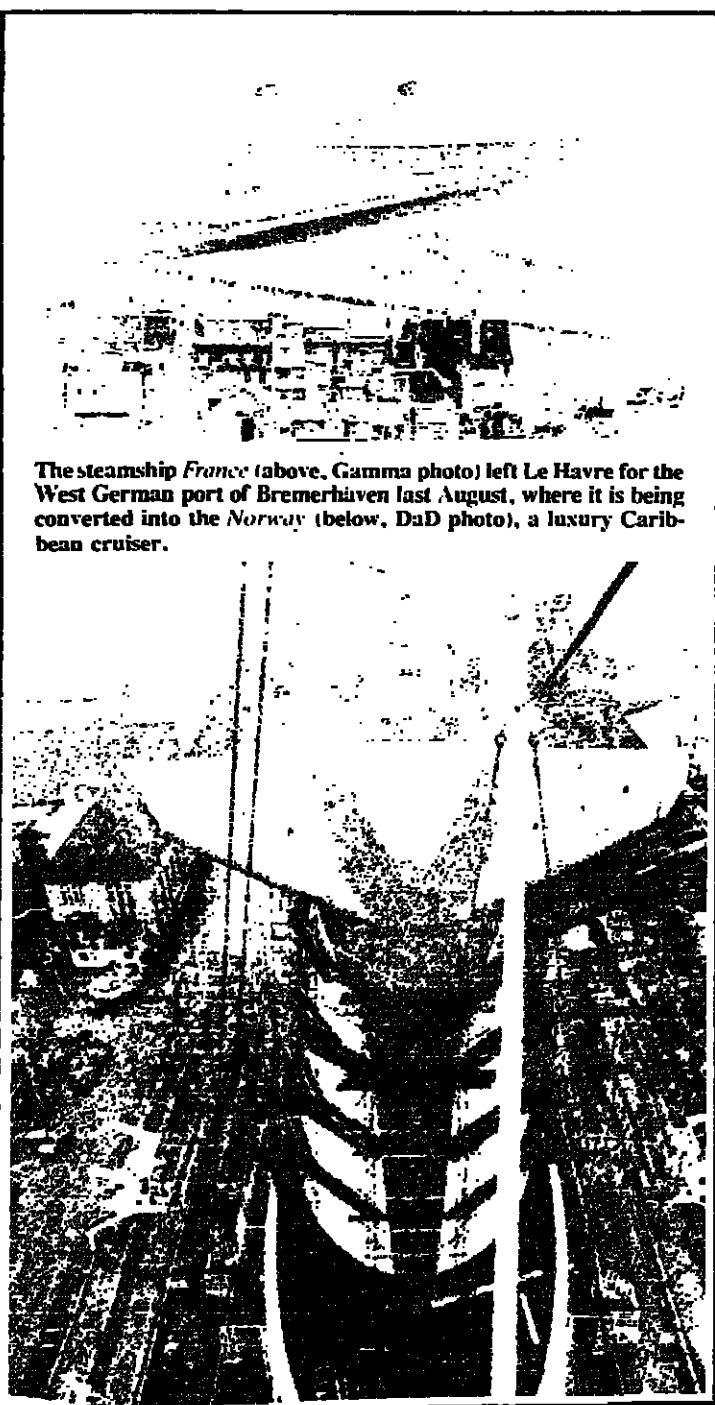
BELGRADE, April 24 (AP) — President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq of Pakistan is to visit China and North Korea next month, the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug reported from Islamabad in the non-aligned pool of agencies. Quoting reliable sources, the agency said Gen. Zia would leave Pakistan on May 5 for a week-long visit of the two countries, spending four days in Peking and three in Pyongyang. Tanjug said the talks will be on matters of "mutual interest and regional developments." It said the meeting between Gen. Zia and officials of the two countries would be the first at such level since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. Tanjug said Gen. Zia was expected to ask both countries for arms "to cope with the situation, arising out of the Soviet action." It said the "latest developments in the Gulf region" would also be discussed.

BELFAST, April 24 (AP) — Eight bombs exploded in three Northern, Ireland towns late last night and early today, police reported. At least five other bombs were defused. The outlawed Irish Republican Army's "Provisional" wing claimed responsibility and boasted the attacks showed they could strike inside guarded urban security zones in the turbulent province. Police reported no one was injured in the blitz, the most concentrated bombing attack by the guerrillas for several weeks. The almost exclusively Roman Catholic "Provos" are fighting to end British rule in the Protestant-dominated province and reunite it with the overwhelmingly Catholic Irish Republic. Poles reported four bombs exploded in a department store in Omagh, west of Belfast, starting a big blaze that firemen did not bring under control until after dawn. Three more bombs exploded in the nearby town of Dungannon, damaging three stores. The eighth bomb exploded in Cookstown.

KATMANDU, Nepal, April 24 (AP) — Two more persons, injured during a violent political demonstration in Pokhara, 200 kilometres west of here, last Tuesday have died, the newspaper Naya Nepal reported today. Earlier, officials said only one person was killed and 17 others were injured, two seriously, after police opened fire during the clash between supporters of the present party-less Panchayat system and advocates of multiple-party system engaged in campaign for the coming referendum. The referendum, to be held May 2, will decide whether to retain the Panchayat system or switch to the Western-style multiple party setup. Since the government set the date for the referendum last month, similar clashes have already claimed the lives of two political workers in other parts of the Himalayan kingdom.

SALISBURY, April 24 (AP) — More than 400 blacks have been arrested for inter-factional violence including shootings, grenade attacks and beatings, police reported today. At least four persons have been killed and hundreds of others injured in clashes between rival parties since independence came to Zimbabwe, former Rhodesia, at midnight last Thursday. Former prime minister Mr. Abel Muzorewa says his supporters were prime victims of attacks by members of Premier Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), which won 57 of 100 national assembly seats in British-supervised elections in February. And Mr. Mugabe's Home Affairs Minister Joshua Nkomo, whose rival nationalist force fought alongside Mr. Mugabe during the seven-year war, claims many of his supporters were beaten by ZANU. Mr. Mugabe warned this week police would use "sternest measures" to crack down on violence, if worst since inter-faction fighting and clashes with police of the former white-minority government in the early 1960s.

DACCA, April 24 (AP) — At least 230 persons were still missing as feared dead four days after an overcrowded ferryboat with some 300 passengers aboard capsized in a storm on the Padma river in central Bangladesh, authorities said today. The ferryboat, with a capacity for only 60 passengers, capsized Sunday en route to Dacca, the capital. Authorities said they recovered about 26 bodies and rescued 4 passengers from the disaster site, 50 kilometres west of here. The government-owned Bangladesh Times reported Tuesday that a bodies had been recovered and 36 passengers rescued. "Many passengers were trapped in the vessel as all its windows in the lower deck were shut during the storm and before the disaster," a passenger who survived the accident told the Associated Press.



The steamship France (above, Gamma photo) left Le Havre for the West German port of Bremerhaven last August, where it is being converted into the Norway (below, DaD photo), a luxury Caribbean cruiser.

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